

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application.

Appreciation is expressed for the telephonic interview kindly accorded Stephen A. Terrile, on September 6, 2002. During the interview, additional possible rejections to the claims were discussed and claim amendments along the lines of those set forth in this paper were discussed to address possible 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 112 rejections.

The preamble of claim 1 has been amended to claim a computer readable media encoded with a data structure where the data structure is encoded to enable a customer to perform an automated order entry process. Thus, the claims are believed to be statutory. See, M.P.E.P. § 2106, specifically the discussion relating to data structures which sets forth "a claimed computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure defines structural and functional interrelationships between the data structure and the computer software and hardware components which permit the data structure's functionality to be realized, and is thus statutory."

Applicant intends to be her own lexicographer and to define the phrase "system type" as the term is defined at page 11, line 4 which sets forth "[t]he System Type element tells a user whether a product is bundled, i.e., is a commodity item, or custom, i.e., is a non-commodity item." Thus, the term "system type" is defined as an element that tells a user whether a product is bundled or custom. Accordingly, it is believed that, as defined, the phrase "system type" is definite and does not fall within the scope of MPEP § 2173.05(b)E.

Also, Applicant intends to be her own lexicographer and to define the phrase "business rules elements" as a system specific element for each configuration identifier and to further define a business rule element such that the business rule element applies to a particular system. More specifically, the examiner's attention is directed to page 10, lines 18 – 20 and the paragraph starting on line 23 of the specification in which the phrase "business rules elements" is discussed. The specification sets forth that "[t]he System ID record portion is system specific for each configuration identifier" and that "[t]he System ID record portion includes a plurality of business rule elements that apply to a particular system." Accordingly, a business rule element is system specific for each configuration identifier and applies to a particular system.

CONCLUSION

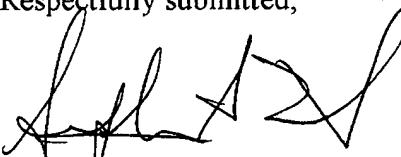
In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is sent via facsimile addressed to: Examiner Fisher, USPTO, Facsimile No. 703-305-7687 on September 24, 2002.


Attorney for Applicant

9/24/02
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A

The following is a "Marked Up" version of the entire set of claims showing the changes that the accompanying submission makes to the claims of Serial No. 09/592,741:

1. (Thrice Amended) A computer readable media, the computer readable media encoded with a data structure for providing a catalog from a manufacturer to a customer the data structure being encoded to enable a customer to perform an automated order entry process, the data structure comprising:

- a catalog header record portion;
- a system identification portion, the system identification portion including a system type indicator, the system type indicator indicating whether a system is one of a bundled system and a custom system; and
- a system option record portion.

2. (As Filed) The data structure of claim 1 wherein the catalog header portion applies to an entire catalog.

3. (As Filed) The data structure of claim 1 wherein the system identification record portion includes a plurality of business rule elements that apply to a particular system.

4. (As Filed) The data structure of claim 3 wherein the plurality of business rule elements include a system identification element, the system identification element providing a manufacture assigned unique identifier.

5. (As Filed) The data structure of claim 3 wherein the plurality of business rule elements include a system identification effective date element, the system identification effective data element providing an effective date that a particular configuration is allowed to be purchased.

6. (As Filed) The data structure of claim 3 wherein the plurality of business rule elements include a system identification action element, the system identification action element programmably informing a customer what function to perform on a system.
7. (As Filed) The data structure of claim 6 wherein the functions to be performed include an add function, a replace function and a discontinue function.
8. (As Filed) The data structure of claim 1 wherein the system option portion includes a plurality of relationship indicator elements.
9. (As Filed) The data structure of claim 8 wherein the plurality of relationship indicator elements include a relationship identification element, the relationship identification element providing an indicator that communicates for a component, a relationship of the component to other components.